

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, and 7 are pending in the application, of which claims 1 and 4 are in independent form. Claims 2-3, 5-6, 8-15, and 17-18 are canceled in this Reply, and no new claims are added.

Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to include the subject matter of claims 11 and 14, respectively, which was indicated to be allowable in the Office Action. Claim 7 depends from claim 4 and is thus believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as claim 4.

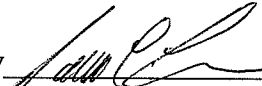
In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact James C. Larsen, Reg. No. 58,565 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 14, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

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